



Borough of Altrincham

1945



PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman : ALDERMAN A. WESTON

Vice-Chairman : COUNCILLOR H. KEAY

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE

Chairman : ALDERMAN E. WEBB

Vice-Chairman : COUNCILLOR J. H. COSGROVE, J.P.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL COMMITTEE

Chairman : COUNCILLOR W. H. WALKER

Vice-Chairman : COUNCILLOR F. GIBSON

FIRE BRIGADE AND AMBULANCE COMMITTEE

Chairman : ALDERMAN R. H. LEE, J.P. (Deputy Mayor)

Vice-Chairman : ALDERMAN W. WATERHOUSE

BOROUGH OF ALTRINCHAM

With the Compliments of the
Medical Officer of Health.

Town Hall,
ALTRINCHAM.

OFFICIALS

OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

R. REID DUNCAN, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.
Medical Superintendent of Isolation Hospital.
Medical Officer to the Child Welfare Centres and Ante-Natal Clinic.

JAMES E. CRICKMORE, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Chief Sanitary Inspector.
Inspector under Shops' Acts.
Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute.
Certificate for the Inspection of Meat and other Foods.

KENNETH ASHLEY, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

First Additional Sanitary Inspector.
Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute.
Certificate for the Inspection of Meat and other Foods.

JOHN F. CUBBON, A.R.S.I.

Second Additional Sanitary Inspector.
Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute.

Miss H. W. BARDSLEY, S.R.N.

Senior Health Visitor.
Infant Protection Visitor.
Holds New Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute.
Maternity Certificate.

Miss DORIS WHITWORTH, S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N.

Additional Health Visitor.
Holds New Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute.

K. VERNON BAILEY, M.D., M.R.C.P.

Consulting Obstetrical Surgeon for Puerperal Sepsis and difficult Obstetrical Cases.

BARBARA J. JOHNSON, L.R.C.P.I., L.R.C.S.I., L.M.

Post-Natal Clinic.

Miss DODDING, S.R.N., C.M.B.

Matron, Isolation Hospital.

Miss W. RUTTER, S.R.N.

Matron, Day Nursery.

Mrs. C. R. HARGREAVES

Clerk, Sanitary Department.

Miss DOROTHY M. WILD

Clerk, Maternity and Child Welfare Department.

Miss EILEEN ROBINSON

Junior Clerk, Maternity and Child Welfare Department.

NELSON BARKER

Ambulance Officer.

Annual Report for the Year 1945

Public Health Department,
Town Hall,
Altrincham.

*The Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the
Borough of Altrincham.*

YOUR WORSHIP and GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you the Ninth Annual Report of the Municipal Borough of Altrincham, dealing with the health of the Borough for the year 1945.

Circular 28/46 of the Ministry of Health directs that the Annual Report be prepared on the lines of that for 1944 as indicated in Circular 49/45.

1. GENERAL STATISTICS

The Borough of Altrincham is situated in the northern part of Mid-Cheshire, 8 miles south-west from the Centre of the City of Manchester. Altrincham is the shopping centre of a populous area with a public market held on Tuesday and Saturday of each week. There are several large and many smaller engineering works and factories within the Borough, concentrated mainly in Broadheath, along the Bridgewater Canal.

Area	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	3,519 acres
Population (Registrar-General's Estimate)						....		36,520
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1945)						....		11,683
Rateable Value (at 31st December, 1945)	....					....	....	£305,958
Sum represented by a penny rate	....					....	....	£1,246 2s. 10d.

2. VITAL STATISTICS

BIRTHS

The number of Births registered in, and allocated to, the Borough of Altrincham in 1945 is 624 (Males 312, Females 312). Still Births number 17 (Males 13, Females 4).

LIVE BIRTHS

Legitimate Births	....	....	584 (M. 291, F. 293)
Illegitimate Births	....	....	40 (M. 21, F. 19)

STILL BIRTHS

Legitimate Births	....	....	16 (M. 13, F. 3)
Illegitimate Birth	....	....	1 (M. 0, F. 1)

representing a Live Birth Rate of 17.0 per 1,000 of the population and a Still Birth Rate of 0.46 per 1,000 of the population. For 1944 these Rates were 18.5 and 0.29 respectively.

The Illegitimate Births number 40, being 6.4 per cent of the total. In 1944 this percentage was 3.6 and in 1938 it was 3.5.

DEATHS

The total number of Deaths, corrected for Outward and Inward Transfer, is 431 (Males 211, Females 220) representing a Death Rate of 11.7 per 1,000 of the population. For 1944 the Death Rate was 10.5. Owing to the increasing number of more aged people in the community the Death Rate will rise in future years unless offset by a largely increased and sustained Birth Rate.

The number of Deaths of Infants under one year of age is 26 (Males 14, Females 12), of whom 2 are illegitimate, equivalent to an Infantile Mortality Rate of 41 per 1,000 Live Births. Of these 26 Deaths, 24 are attributable to premature Birth, congenital malformations, birth injuries, etc.

BIRTH RATES, DEATH RATES AND INFANTILE MORTALITY RATES
SHOWING COMPARISON OF ALTRINCHAM WITH OTHER AREAS

Area	Birth Rate per 1,000 of population		Annual Death Rate per 1,000 of the population	Infantile Mortality Rate	Diarrhoea under 2 years per 1,000 Live Births
	Live Births	Still Births			
England and Wales	16.1	0.46	11.4	46	5.6
126 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London	19.1	0.58	13.5	54	7.8
148 Smaller Towns, 25,000-50,000 at 1931 Census	19.2	0.53	12.3	43	4.5
Altrincham, 1938	16.4	0.69	12.0	60	2.5
ALTRINCHAM, 1945	17.1	0.46	11.7	41	0.0

CLASSIFIED CAUSES OF DEATH

	M.	F.	Total
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	0	0	0
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever	0	0	0
Whooping Cough	0	0	0
Diphtheria....	0	0	0
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	9	5	14
Other forms of Tuberculosis	0	1	1
Syphilitic Disease	1	0	1
Influenza	0	1	1
Measles	0	0	0
Acute Poliomyelitis	0	0	0
Acute Infective Encephalitis	0	0	0
Cancer of Mouth and Oesophagus in Males and Uterus in Females	2	7	9
Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	7	5	12

CLASSIFIED CAUSES OF DEATH—*continued.*

Cancer of Breast	....	....	....	....	0	7	7
Cancer of all other Sites	....	....	....	....	35	30	65
Diabetes	....	....	....	....	0	3	3
Intracranial Vascular Lesions	....	....	....	....	20	28	48
Heart Disease	....	....	....	....	51	58	109
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	....	....	....	....	5	7	12
Bronchitis	....	....	....	....	19	17	36
Pneumonia	....	....	....	....	9	10	19
Other Respiratory Diseases	....	....	....	....	2	2	4
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	....	....	....	....	0	0	0
Diarrhoea under 2 years of age	....	....	....	....	0	0	0
Appendicitis	....	....	....	....	2	1	3
Other Digestive Diseases	....	....	....	....	3	4	7
Nephritis	....	....	....	....	5	2	7
Puerperal and Post-abortion Sepsis	....	....	....	....	0	0	0
Other Maternal Causes	....	....	....	....	0	0	0
Premature Birth	....	....	....	....	2	2	4
Congenital Malformations, etc.	....	....	....	....	9	11	20
Suicide	....	....	....	....	0	2	2
Road Traffic Accidents	....	....	....	....	1	0	1
Other Violent Causes	....	....	....	....	7	2	9
All Other Causes	....	....	....	....	22	15	37
All Causes	....	....	....	....	211	220	431

The marked increase in the number of Deaths from Cancer is at first sight alarming, suggesting that Cancer as a cause of death is largely on the increase. I believe that the true explanation is that many more people live to a much greater age than formerly, length of years being in itself a contributory cause of cancer, although not the real cause.

EXTRACT FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1945

Live Births	....	....	....	....	....	624	(M. 312, F. 312)
(Legitimate)	....	....	....	....	....	584	(M. 291, F. 293)
(Illegitimate)	....	....	....	....	....	40	(M. 21, F. 19)
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of the population	....	....	....	....	....	17.0	
Still Births	....	....	....	....	....	17	(M. 13, F. 4)
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births	....	....	....	....	....	26.5	
Deaths	....	....	....	....	....	431	(M. 211, F. 220)
Death Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population	....	....	....	....	....	11.7	

Deaths from Puerperal Causes

(Headings of the Registrar-General's Short List, 29 and 30)

						Rate per 1,000 Live & Still Births
No. 29.	Puerperal Sepsis	....	....	....	....	0
No. 30.	Other Maternal Causes	....	....	....	....	0
Death rate of Infants under one year of age—						
	All Infants, per 1,000 Live Births	....	....	....	....	41
	Legitimate Infants per 1,000 Legitimate Births	....	....	....	....	41
	Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 Illegitimate Births	....	....	....	....	50
	Deaths from Cancer (All ages)	....	....	....	....	93
	Deaths from Measles (All ages)	....	....	....	....	0
	Deaths from Whooping Cough (All ages)	....	....	....	....	0
	Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	....	....	....	....	0

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

1. (a) LABORATORY FACILITIES

During 1945, 134 specimens were reported on by the Department of Bacteriology and Preventive Medicine of the University of Manchester. Diphtheria swabs 93, of which 7 were positive, Agglutination Tests 6, of which 2 were positive and 1 Human Tuberculosis Sputum which was positive.

Swabs for Haemolytic Streptococci 20; swab for Vincent's Angina 1; Faeces (for Dysentery, Typhoid, etc.) 7; Cerebro-Spinal Fluid 2; Milk for Bacterial Count 2; Milk for Methylene Blue Reduction Test 2. During 1945, 122 specimens of sputum were bacteriologically examined for Tubercle Bacilli by the Public Health Laboratory of the County of Chester. Of these, 16 were found to be positive.

Sterile throat swabs, blood Collection outfits, Diphtheria Antitoxin and Prophylactic Material are kept at the Town Hall for use, within the Borough, by medical practitioners.

(b) AMBULANCE FACILITIES

The Corporation of Altrincham maintain 3 well-equipped ambulance vehicles. After the end of the war the female drivers and attendants were replaced by male personnel. The service is under the charge of an Ambulance Officer and is free of charge to residents of the Borough to any hospital or Nursing Home within 10 miles of Altrincham.

(c) NURSING IN THE HOME

There is an efficient District Nursing Association in the Borough, affiliated with the Queen's Nurses' Institute.

(d) TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS, including Clinics solely for diagnosis or consultation.

There are two Child Welfare Centres

1. Mountlands Welfare Centre

3 Sessions are held each week, 1 on Mondays and 2 on Wednesdays. 1 Ante-Natal Clinic is held on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month.

1 Post-Natal Clinic is held on the 3rd Tuesday of each month, conducted by a female general practitioner.

2. Park Road Welfare Centre, Timperley.

4 Sessions are held each week, 2 on Tuesdays and 2 on Thursdays. Medical Consultations were as follows:—

		Under one year of age	Over one year of age
Mountlands Welfare Centre	768	517	251
(M. 450, F. 318)			
Park Road Welfare Centre	740	412	328
(M. 379, F. 361)			
Total (M. 829, F. 679)	1508	929	579

Ante-Natal Clinic

The number of examinations at the Clinics was 287, 121 expectant mothers having attended.

Post-Natal Clinic

There were 59 attendances.

(e) HOSPITALS—PUBLIC AND VOLUNTARY

There has been no change.

2. (i) MIDWIFERY AND MATERNITY SERVICES

It is expected that all pregnant women, not under the care of a medical practitioner, shall attend, accompanied by the midwife of their choice, at the Ante-Natal Clinic.

(ii) INSTITUTIONAL PROVISION FOR MOTHERS AND CHILDREN

Since April, 1943, a War-time Day Nursery has been established at Walney, 1, Gaskell Road, Altrincham, for the daytime care of children whose mothers are employed in war industries. The children of women still employed in industry are eligible for admission to the Nursery. During 1945, 7,474 attendances are recorded.

(iii) HEALTH VISITORS

There are 2 Health Visitors.

(iv) CHILD LIFE PROTECTION

Under the Adoption of Children (Regulation) Act, 1939, children are visited until they attain the age of 9 years.

(v) ARRANGEMENTS FOR DENTAL, ORTHOPAEDIC, ETC., CASES

An Orthopaedic Clinic is held each week at the Altrincham General Hospital, under the care of an orthopaedic specialist. Many cases are referred from the Child Welfare Centres to the Orthopaedic Clinic. Facilities are also available at the Altrincham General Hospital for treatment by Ultra-Violet Rays.

Dental Treatment can be obtained by expectant and nursing mothers and children under 5 years of age whose family income entitles them to it.

(vi) HOME HELPS

In April, 1944, the work of the Voluntary Home Help Society in Altrincham was taken over by the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee of the Corporation. Two full-time Home Helps are employed and three other part-time Home Helps are available when required. During 1945, the Home Help Service dealt with 52 cases.

(vii) DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION CLINIC

A Clinic is held every 4 weeks at each of the 2 Welfare Centres, each child receiving 2 doses of Alum Precipitated Toxoid at a 4-weekly interval. The Clinics are held on Saturday mornings.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE
ANNUAL REPORT, 1945

To the Chairman and Members of the Committee.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit my report of the work of this department from 1st January to 31st December, 1945.

Number of live births notified	M. 296, F. 306	....	....	....	602
„ „ still „ „	M. 12, F. 5	....	....	....	17
Total Notified					619

VISITS BY TIMPERLEY HEALTH VISITOR

Number of first visits to Infants under 1 year	....	....	....	....	268
„ „ subsequent visits to Infants under 1 year	....	....	....	....	937
Total visits to children 1 to 5 years	....	....	....	....	1150
Number of first visits to expectant mothers	....	....	....	....	32
„ „ subsequent visits to expectant mothers	....	....	....	....	14
„ „ Infant Life Protection visits	....	....	....	....	6
„ „ Adoption Act visits	....	....	....	....	44
Total visits					<hr/> 2451 <hr/>

VISITS BY ALTRINCHAM HEALTH VISITOR

Number of first visits to Infants under 1 year	....	....	....	....	297
„ „ subsequent visits to Infants under 1 year	....	....	....	....	755
Total visits to children 1 to 5 years	....	....	....	....	1196
Number of first visits to expectant mothers	....	....	....	....	80
„ „ subsequent visits to expectant mothers	....	....	....	....	48
„ „ Infant Life Protection visits	....	....	....	....	1
„ „ Adoption Act visits	....	....	....	....	23
Total visits					<hr/> 2400 <hr/>

CHILD WELFARE CENTRES

THE MOUNTLANDS

Number of children who attended for 1st time under 1 year	....	....	....	....	288
Total number of children weighed under 1 year	....	....	....	....	5895
Number who attended for the 1st time between 1 and 5 years	....	....	....	....	11
Total number weighed between 1 and 5 years	....	....	....	....	4210
Total number weighed					<hr/> 10105 <hr/>

Number of individual cases from outside districts who attended for the 1st time—under 1 year	....	....	....	....	7
„ „ between 1 and 5 years	....	....	....	....	3
Total attendances under 1 year	....	....	....	....	20
„ „ between 1 and 5 years	....	....	....	....	16

There were 148 sessions held during the year, making an average attendance at each session of 69.

ANTE-NATAL CLINIC

This Clinic is held on the second and fourth Tuesday each month.

Number of expectant mothers attending for first time	....	....	....	....	121
Total number of attendances	....	....	....	....	287

There were 23 sessions held during the year, making an average attendance of 13 per session.

POST-NATAL CLINIC

This Clinic is held on the third Tuesday in each month.

Total number of attendances	59
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PARK ROAD CENTRE

HOMESTEAD

Number of children who attended for 1st time under 1 year	255
Total number of children weighed under 1 year	....	....	6097
Number who attended for 1st time between 1 and 5 years	....	....	51
Total number weighed between 1 and 5 years	....	....	5479
Total number weighed			<hr/> 11576 <hr/>

Number of individual cases from outside districts who attended for 1st time—under 1 year	....	....	....	....	....	....	22
„ „ between 1 and 5 years	....	....	....	....	....	....	8
Total attendances under 1 year	....	....	....	....	....	....	257
„ „ between 1 and 5 years	....	....	....	....	....	....	30

There were 198 sessions held during the year, making an average attendance at each session of 59.

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PERSONS' ACTS, 1908 and 1932

Number of foster mothers on the register at the end of year	....	....	1
„ „ children on the register at the end of year	....	....	1
„ „ cases removed from register	....	....	Nil
„ „ new cases added to register	....	....	Nil
Total visits paid	....	....	6

ADOPTION OF CHILDREN (REGULATION) ACT, 1939

Number of persons who gave notice under section 7(3) during the year	18
Total number of children adopted under the section during the year	15

IMMUNISATION CLINIC

The above Clinic has been held once each month at both Centres on Saturday mornings.

The number completely immunised at 31st December, 1945, was :—
Mountlands, 262 ; Homestead, 260. TOTAL, 522.

I wish to express my appreciation of the work of the Voluntary Helpers at the Clinics and request that the thanks of the Committee be conveyed to them.

D. WHITWORTH, Health Visitor.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR 1945

Sanitary Department,
Town Hall,
Altrincham.
January, 1946.

*His Worship the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the
Altrincham Borough Council.*

YOUR WORSHIP and GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit my Annual Report of the Sanitary Administration for the year ended 31st December, 1945.

This is the first Annual Report submitted upon the sanitary administration of the district since the year 1940. The Ministry of Health in Circular No. 2067 dated 19th July, 1940, inferred that reports should be confined to essential and urgent matters which have affected the public health during the year, especially any matters arising from or in connection with the war, together with any exceptional administrative measures taken.

During the war, the Staff in the Sanitary Department have been engaged in various activities, including the salvage of waste materials, which became a matter of prime importance to the nation. The Civil Defence Services including the decontamination of roads, buildings, protective and civilian clothing. The decontamination of foodstuffs was also prepared for, in case the actual operation became necessary.

The Ministry of Food established a Slaughterhouse at the Corporation Abattoir in January, 1940, which is still in operation. The throughput of animals is greatly in excess of what existed before 1940.

RIVERS AND STREAMS

The Lancashire Rivers Board, 48, Moseley Street, Manchester 2, are the responsible authority for dealing with pollution of watercourses in the Borough, and any evidence of pollution should be brought to their notice at the above address.

The North-East Cheshire Rivers Catchment Board, St. John's House, Chester, deal with obstructions in main rivers in the area.

WATER SUPPLY

The district is supplied with water by the Manchester Corporation. During the year complaints were received from one area in regard to the water supply. The Manchester Corporation Waterworks had a chemical analysis of a sample obtained from the area, which was normal and satisfactory, and bacteriologically the sample was excellent. The supply in the district is chlorinated. The whitish appearance of the water is sometimes due to air getting into the pipes when the supply has been shut off for repairs, etc., and this gradually disperses.

There are a few isolated premises in the district still obtaining their water supply from wells.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION

The whole of the district except a few outlying premises and 4 houses in the North Ward are on the water carriage system. The Corporation have accepted an estimate from a Contractor to convert the 4 privies into water closets, but at the end of the year the work had not been commenced.

VERMINOUS HOUSES

Liquid insecticides and powder are supplied free by the Corporation upon application to the Sanitary Department by occupiers of premises, to assist them in helping to eradicate vermin.

The Building, Housing and Town Planning Committee have had 8 occupied and 1 unoccupied Corporation houses treated with Hydrogen Cyanide by an authorised fumigator under the Hydrogen Cyanide (Fumigation of Buildings) Regulations, 1938. The work was carried out by the Committee as Landlords, and not as a Public Health Authority.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.—COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF REFUSE

The work of street cleansing is dealt with by the Borough Surveyor.

The collection of refuse from premises where dustbins are provided takes place once in every fourteen days, except in the centre of the town, where a weekly collection is in operation. There are a few ashpits still remaining, and these are emptied about once per month, while the sanitary pails in the remote parts of the district are emptied each week.

The Refuse Collection Vehicles consist of :—2 seven cubic yard S.D. Freighters, purchased April, 1930 ; 2 eight cubic yard Leyland Waggon, new in 1932 ; 1 ten cubic yard S.D. Freighter purchased 1936 ; 1 eleven cubic yard S.D. Freighter purchased 1939 ; 1 Guy Vixant purchased 1942.

Increased running costs have occurred due to the age of most of the vehicles. It has been extremely difficult to obtain the necessary spare parts and keep the older vehicles on the road.

The Corporation ordered 2 S.D. Freighters from Messrs. Shelvoke and Drewry Ltd., in 1943, and have obtained a licence from the Ministry of War Transport under the Acquisition and Disposal of Motor Vehicles Order, 1942, to acquire such vehicles, and it is hoped that an early delivery will be made in 1946.

REFUSE DISPOSAL

In the report for 1940, reference was made to the difficulty in obtaining suitable land for the disposal of refuse. The refuse is now being disposed of on land at the Sewage Disposal Works. Certain excavations of earth have had to be made, and further excavations will be necessary in 1946, to provide more tipping facilities.

ASHPITS

No. of houses relieved	....	2006
No. of wet ashpits emptied	....	58
No. of pails emptied	....	2830
No. of dry ashpits emptied	....	53

ASHBINS

No. of houses relieved	....	312683
No. of ashbins emptied		331070
No. of loads removed	....	5120

COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF SALVAGE

The amount of salvage collected and sold for the financial year 1st April, 1944, to 31st March, 1945, is shown in the following table :—

					T.	c.	q.	£	s.	d.
Magazines and Periodicals	....	....	....	....	27	5	0	249	16	3
Paper	....	....	....	....	295	13	3	1885	15	6
Ferrous Metal	....	....	....	....	24	1	3	36	2	10
Non-Ferrous Metal	....	....	....	....	1	6	0	41	5	4
Textiles, Carpets, etc.	....	....	....	....	17	15	3	229	2	9
Bottles and Jars	....	....	....	....	39	19	2	60	0	6
Kitchen Waste....	....	....	....	....	65	9	0	98	3	6
Bones	....	....	....	....	8	2	3	38	18	2
Miscellaneous	....	....	....	....	9	11	3	40	17	2
					489	5	1	2680	2	0

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

INSPECTIONS MADE DURING THE YEAR

Water Supply	....	....	15	Slaughterhouses	....	....	551
Drainage	....	....	340	Cowsheds	....	....	5
Common Lodging Houses	....	....	11	Dairies and Milkshops	....	....	49
Factories	....	....	23	Inspections in Market....	....	....	145
Bakehouses	....	....	43	Miscellaneous Sanitary Visits			314
Public Conveniences	....	....	184	Council or Committee Meetings			
Refuse Collection	....	....	56	Attended	....	....	65
Refuse Disposal	....	....	71	Verminous Premises	....	....	21
Schools	....	....	46	Infectious Disease Enquiries	....	....	26
Shops	....	....	57	Rodent Inspections	....	....	96
Ash Receptacles	....	....	1254				

NOTICES SERVED

Notices Served			Notices complied with			Notices Outstanding		
Informal	Statutory	Total	Informal	Statutory	Total	Informal	Statutory	Total
928	86	1,014	669	54	723	259	32	291

RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT, 1919

The Corporation entered into an Agreement with the Cheshire County Council to act as their Agents under the above Act. The Chief Sanitary Inspector was appointed Officer of the Altrincham Borough Council under the Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919, for the purpose of carrying out the duties of the Cheshire County Council under the said Act, and the Infestation Order, 1943. A Rat Catcher has been appointed by the Corporation to undertake work of destruction where the Occupier signs an agreement as to payment, and desires the Corporation to execute the work. Under the arrangement the Minister of Food directs the Cheshire County Council to operate the Infestation Order, 1943, and each of the County Local Authorities in the county is appointed as the County Council's Agent to operate the Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919, and the Infestation Order, 1943, in respect of non-agricultural land. In cases where legal proceedings become necessary these have to be reported to the Cheshire County Council, and on receipt of a resolution of the appropriate Committee, authorising the institution of proceedings, they may be taken either by the County Council or the Local Authority as may be arranged.

In regard to the actual scheme the following report for the period 1st April to 30th September, 1945, was submitted :—

Approximate cases investigated, 59.

Number of Cases of Infestation discovered—(a) Serious, 19 ; (b) Minor, 32.

Cases are dealt with by advice to occupiers of premises as to methods of eradication, and the entering into agreements by the Corporation as Agents for the Cheshire County Council for the execution of work by the Rat Catcher. Twenty-eight contracts were entered into during this period, amounting to £60.

The poisons used are as follows :—

- (1) Zince Phosphide, generally found to be effective.
- (2) Arsenic, found not to be so effective.
- (3) Red Squill, used in some cases and found to be fairly effective.

The Corporation prepared an explanatory leaflet for the guidance of occupiers of premises.

HOUSING

New houses erected by Private Enterprise ....	....	....	....	....	6
Houses erected by the Local Authority ....	....	....	....	....	None

DESIGNATED MILKS

Dealers licensed to sell "Tuberculin Tested" Milk	....	....	....	1
Supplementary Licence to sell "Pasteurized" Milk	....	....	....	1

FOODSTUFFS SURRENDERED AT SHOPS, ETC., UNFIT FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION DURING THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31ST, 1945 :—

Bacon	39lbs.	Frozen Egg Yolk.....	150lbs.
Butter	48½lbs.	Pickles.....	2 jars
Cheese.....	50lbs.	Beetroot.....	1 jar
Fish.....	35stone 2lbs.	Cooked Meats.....	10lbs.
Eggs.....	30 doz.	Salt	9lbs.
Lentils.....	⅓ cwt.	Semolina	43lbs.
Shredded Wheat.....	6 cartons	Dates.....	1cwt. 2qrs. 15lbs.
Porridge Oats.....	60lbs.	Lemon Cheese.....	2½lbs.
Cake & Pudding Flour.....	1cwt. 3lbs.	Syrup.....	3lbs.
Sausages	9lbs.	Jam	7lbs.
Meat Paste.....	1 jar	Marmalade.....	4lbs.
Fish Cakes.....	42lbs.	Toffee	8lbs.
Figs	52lbs.	Chcolate.....	240 bars

CANNED FOODS :

Canned Meats— 6lb. tins	9 tins	Canned Vegetables—Peas.....	55 tins
3lb. „	2 „	Beans	119 „
2½lb. „	3 „	Carrots.....	9 „
1½lb. „	11 „	Beetroot....	9 „
1lb. „	5 „	Mixed.....	9 „
under 1lb. „	67 „		
Canned Fish—Salmon	13 tins	Canned Soups.....	22 tins
Sardine	50 „	Canned Fruit—Pears.....	1 tin
Herrings	8 „	Canned Jams.....	4 tins
Pilchards.....	101 „	Canned Marmalade.....	12 tins
Mackerel.....	9 „	Canned Milk.....	69 tins
Crayfish	3 „		
Shrimps.....	4 „		

SLAUGHTERHOUSES

During the year ended December 31st, 1945, the following animals were slaughtered on the premises for the Ministry of Food, viz. :

BOVINES—Cattle	....	....	....	....	....	....	4373
Calves	....	....	....	....	....	....	2036
SHEEP	....	....	....	....	....	....	9257
PIGS	....	....	....	....	....	....	214

The amount of carcasses and organs found upon inspection to be unfit for food was as follows :—

Annual Summary of Meat Unfit at Slaughterhouses during the Year, 1945, with particulars of Diseases.

	Weight of Meat (tons, etc.)				Tuberculosis	Anaemia	Septicaemia	Dropsy	Emaciation	Swine Erysipelas	Fever	Decomposition and Bone Taint	Mammitis	Fluke	Bruising	Inflammation	Pneumonia	Actinomycosis	Cavernous Angioma	Fatty Degeneration	Joint Ill	Immaturity & Rickets	Tumours	Cysts	Abscesses	Nephritis	Totals
	T. C. Q. lbs.																										
	T.	C.	Q.	lbs.																							
BOVINES :																											
Carcases and Organs	19	9	2	20	93	1	9	5	6		4	1			1	9					3	2		1			125
Portions of Carcases	4	1	3	4	143			1				5			16												175
Heads					282							3			1												298
Plucks					1334							4				7											1362
Hearts					76							3				10					1						93
Livers					208			2				2		500		2				88	19		2		47	150	1018
Spleens					153							4				10											167
Skirts					59							3				2											67
Stomachs					158			9				13				18									3		202
Intestines					468			8				14				19									4		510
Mesenteries					470			8				14				19									1		512
Udders					35							6	675		2	10					8				2		730
Kidneys					67			2				2			2	16								16	11		234
SHEEP :																											
Carcases and Organs	0	3	0	15			1	1	1			7															10
Portions of Carcases	0	0	2	5											1	4									1		6
Plucks														3		5								16			25
Livers														253		3								18			274
Stomachs																											1
Intestines								1	1			2				4											7
PIGS :																											
Carcases and Organs	0	2	3	7	1	1						1										1					3
Portions of Carcases	0	0	1	9											1										1		3
Heads	0	1	1	19	8										1										1		10
Plucks					11			2						2													14
Livers					9							2									1						13
Stomachs					4			2				2				2											11
Intestines					2			2				2				10											17

In conclusion, I should like to thank the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee, and the Staff in the Sanitary Department for their support during the War Years.

I am, Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

JAMES E. CRICKMORE,
Chief Sanitary Inspector

PREVALENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN THE BOROUGH OF ALTRINCHAM

During 1945, the cases of infectious diseases notified to me were as follows :

Scarlet Fever	....	....	....	45	Paratyphoid B. Fever	....	1
Diphtheria	....	....	....	7	Dysentery (Sonne)	....	2
Erysipelas	....	....	....	16	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	....	1
Pneumonia	....	....	....	32	Measles	....	214
Puerperal Fever	....	....	....	4	Whooping Cough	....	76
Typhoid Fever	....	....	....	1			

One case of Scarlet Fever and four cases of Erysipelas, included in the figures above, were German prisoners of war from the local prisoners of war camp.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE TREATED IN THE ISOLATION HOSPITAL

During 1945, 74 cases were admitted for treatment at the Isolation Hospital. Scarlet Fever 38, Diphtheria 7, Measles 6, Mumps 4, Whooping Cough 3, Tonsillitis 3, Chicken-pox 2, Pneumonia 2, Erysipelas 2, Typhoid Fever 1, Herpes 1, Paratyphoid B Fever 1, Infantile Paralysis 1, Hysterical Shock 1, Intestinal toxæmia 1, Child without any disease 1.

Of these cases, 3 were admitted from Cheadle, 4 from Romiley, 2 from Wilmslow, 1 from Marple and 1 from Rostherne. Several others are from outside districts but are accepted as Altrincham cases because at the inception of their infectious disease they were in-patients at St. Anne's Home for Diseases of the Ear and Throat. During 1945 there was great difficulty in obtaining staff, both nursing and domestic. To meet the recommendations of the Regional Office of the Ministry of Health, separate bedroom accommodation for each member of the nursing and domestic staff has been provided.

In addition to the usual accommodation of wards and administrative block, there are the hutments erected during the war by the Ministry of Health. These provide accommodation for 18 beds on the semi-cubicle system. There is hutment accommodation for the staff to work the hutment wards.

An infectious disease hospital of this size is far too small to attract probationers to this branch of the nursing profession. In recent years only a small fraction of the bed accommodation has been occupied. The incidence of infectious disease throughout the country is falling and is likely to continue to fall. It would be well for the Corporation to consider the advisability of closing the institution as an Isolation Hospital, sending cases for isolation elsewhere and utilising the buildings for some other purpose.

SCABIES

Ten cases of Scabies, who had attended the Skin Hospital in Manchester, were notified to me by the Medical Officer of Health of the City of Manchester. Domiciliary visits were made to offer facilities for the sterilisation of bedding and underclothing.

WATER SUPPLY

With very few exceptions, all houses are provided with a piped supply of water by the Corporation of Manchester.

TUBERCULOSIS—NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1945.

Age Periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Years								
0 to 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 to 5	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
5 to 15	—	—	3	7	—	—	—	1
15 to 25	2	2	1	1	—	1	—	—
25 to 35	4	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
35 to 45	3	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
45 to 55	2	2	—	1	3	—	—	—
55 to 65	3	1	—	—	2	—	1	—
65 and upwards	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
TOTAL	14	7	5	10	7	3	1	1

The Annual Report for 1945 indicates that the austerity of the times in which we live has had little or no detrimental effect on the public health of the Borough of Altrincham.

In conclusion, I take this opportunity to acknowledge to the Officials of the Health Department, especially the Chief Sanitary Inspector, the Health Visitors and my Clerk, Miss Dorothy Wild, my indebtedness for their valuable help in assisting me to draw up this Report.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

R. REID DUNCAN, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health.



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